

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following new paragraph on page 1 after the title of the invention and before the description:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/048,445, filed July 1, 2002, which is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP00/07388, filed July 31, 2000, which claims benefit of prior German Application No. 29913 319.2, filed July 29, 1999 and German Application No. 19937 549.6, filed August 9, 1999.--

Please replace the third full paragraph on page 23 with the following amended paragraph:

The membrane is of hollow semi-spherical shape or its configuration approximates such a form. Connective lines extending from the radially outer points of membrane 82 to the center of the curvature preferably extend to a cone which has an angle of spread in the range between 45 and 135°; it is especially preferred for same to amount to approximately 90°. ~~Membrane 82 has a constant wall thickness, at least over its majority~~As shown in Fig. 8, membrane 82 has a constant wall thickness. Protrusion 92 projects away from the container into the transition zone 90 between membrane 82 and the connecting wall and is of particularly tapered configuration.